

CREATING
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR STUDENTS TO
KEEP WYOMING
STRONG

MEMORANDUM NO. 2020-180

TO: School District Superintendents
Principals

FROM: Kari Eakins, Chief Policy Officer

DATE: December 7, 2020

SUBJECT: WDE 21stCCLC Waiver Approved



JILLIAN BALOW
Superintendent of Public Instruction

DICKY SHANOR
Chief of Staff

SHELLEY HAMEL
Chief Academic Officer

KARI EAKINS
Chief Policy Officer

TRENT CARROLL
Chief Operations Officer



CHEYENNE OFFICE
122 W. 25th St. Suite E200
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-7675

RIVERTON OFFICE
320 West Main
Riverton, WY 82501
307-857-9250



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WDE APPROVED FOR NITA M. LOWEY 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS WAIVER TO REDEFINE SCHOOL DAY

The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) has received approval for a Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers waiver for the 2020-21 school year, and will accept applications from current subgrantees to utilize the flexibility offered through the waiver.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) restricts activities provided through the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) program to activities provided only during non-school hours or periods when school is not in session. Under this waiver, the WDE will approve applications from 21st CCLC programs to provide supplemental activities when school is in session but students are not receiving in-person instruction. All other requirements for a 21st CCLC program continue to apply.

Given the hybrid approach some schools are utilizing in which students are in school part of the week and participating in distance learning during other times, students may benefit from dedicated personnel and enhanced technological resources to help them better engage with virtual

lessons, independent work that is assigned, and other academic enrichment activities during the portion of the week when they are not physically present in school but school is in session remotely for some portion of the day. Programs will track and report activities and expenditures approved for this waiver flexibility separately so the impact of this new approach can be measured.

When operating a 21stCCLC center during what would normally be school hours and serving students younger than 12 years old, a subgrantee with an approved waiver may need to seek licensure for the center through the Department of Family Services. Contact the regional licensing representative for more information.

The PDF and Word versions of the application to utilize waiver flexibility can be found [here](#). Applications should be attached to a grant amendment in the Grants Management System for expedited approval. Applications will be accepted through March 1, 2021.

For more information, contact Karen Bierhaus, 21stCCLC Program Consultant at 307-857-9284 or karen.bierhaus@wyo.gov